

We are a small rural ISP turned CLEC, as there really is no way to survive as a Small ISP alone against the ILEC. We offer Wireless Broadband because Gaining access to the ILEC's Copper facilities is prohibitively expensive in order to offer DSL, and in rural areas the range and condition of copper makes DSL uneconomical, even for the ILEC. Taking our customer's money in the form of a USF charge to give to the ILECs in rural areas is not logical, when in most cases they don't even offer any kind of broadband. Only in the larger metropolitan areas would this proposal even begin to make sense, and in those areas, broadband is ubiquitous already. As a CLEC, we constantly have to live with the ILECs playing "dirty pool" in order to hurt us, some of which is blatantly illegal. But we simply do not have the resources and the 100 attorneys on retainer to fight these practices, so they continue unchecked. Providing yet another way for the ILEC to "manage" a resource that we generated in the first place would be yet another nail in our coffin. Thanks for allowing our voice to be heard, even if it is only a squeek compared to the massive ILEC lobbying.